WASHINGTON CITY.

FRIDAY MORNING, OCT. 2, 1857.

42-Mr. Ismani E. James, of Philadelphia, is our general travelling out, assisted by James Discussed, Jours Colless, J. Harriery, Educati Willey, Jones E. Perriso, E. A. Evans, R. S. James, T. Asman, P.

A. DAVIS, R. T. HORREDS.

*** Mr. C. W. JAMES, No. 1 Harrison street, Cincinnati, Ohio, is our general collecting agent for the Western States and Texas, assisted by H. J. Thomas, William H. Thomas, Thos. M. JAMES, Dr. A. L. Chilles, Glodons Monnis, and Richard Lank. Receipts of either will be good.

***Aff. Goo. W. Bark is authorized to collect moneys due the Union Office for subscriptions and advertisements in the District of

AN ELECTIVE JUDICIARY.

No science has improved faster than that of government. The great problem has been, where power could be most safely vested? In the United States the legislative and executive power was early intrusted to agents elected by the people. By whom the judiciary shall be selected is a question still agitated by public journals of high standing. At an early day the King of England appointed and removed at pleasure, and history informs us that some judges were ready instruments through whom he punished his enemies and protected his friends. When the law required them to be appointed for life the judges became independent of the Crown. In preparing our national constitution, we secured our judges stated compensation and office during good behavior, vesting the appointment in the President, with the concurrence of the Senate. Most of our early State constitutions contain similar provisions. More recently, in amending them, or framing new ones, the judges have been made elective by the people-in many States for a term of years, and in others during good behavior. The question now is, which is the preferable mode of selection? In the struggle in England to avoid the Crown exercising a malign influence over those who held their commissions at its will, the people wisely insisted that the judges should be independent of it, and hence the common expression, "independ ence of the judiciary"-a phrase which has no applicability to the question involved. In this country their salaries are certain, and they are fully independent, because they cannot be removed during their term if they do not misbehave. The true object is to secure, not independence, but uprightness and capacity. Is it probable that judges appointed by the executive authority, holding office for life, will be more upright than those elected by the people for a period of years, and who may wish to be re-elected? Those who contend that executive appointees will prove the most upright start with the assumption that all our judiciary are selfish and bad at heart, and will prove themselves so whenever an opportunity is presented of gratifying their natural propensities. This may be true in some cases, but to say that it has a broad application is a libel upon the judiciary of our country. Even in England, while commissions were held at the will of the sovereign, there were but few who consented to soil the ermine to avoid removal. The great body of the judiciary were upright and just, and their decisions are now respected wherever the common law prevails. Since the judges there became secure against removal by the Crown, some have dishonored their robes and disgraced their country. In this country the elective judges will not suffer by comparison with those appointed by executive authority, either for learning, ability, or moral worth. No one who knows them will have the effrontery to allege that the district judges appointed by the President are wiser or better men than the elected judiciary in the States where it exists. One has been impeached by the House of Representatives and condemned by only one less than a majority of the Senate. Violent and bitter complaints have been made against others. Numbers of territorial judges have been assailed, and some actually removed, upon charges. And even a justice of the Supreme Court appointed by Washington was impeached by the House, and a majority of the Senate voted him guilty upon three out of eight charges. In some of the States a leading cause of abolishing old constitutions and framing new ones was to get rid of imperious political and objectionable judges appointed by Executives for life. No person familiar with the jurisprudence of the States can honestly affirm that the law has been administered with less ability, learning, and impartiality since judges became elective. The decisions of State tribunal where the judges are elected, are, equally with others. read and received as authority in all tribunals, in cluding the Supreme Court of the United States.

Twenty-two of the States elect their judiciary-four by the legislature and eighteen by the people ; and, whenever the compensation is ample, men of the highest character for talents, learning, and integrity are found upon the bench. In nearly every instance of incompetency of judges, whether appointed or elected, the cause can be traced to inadequacy of compensation, which prevented abler men from accepting office. A weak judge will be weak, however he may obtain his commission ; while a corrupt one will remain corrupt, even if appointed by an Executive. If anything will deter him from a practice of evil, it will be the desire to appear to be virtuous and good to secure a re-election. One objection made against an elective judiciary

is, that the judges are elected by political parties, and that they will be liable to be swayed in their judgments by partisan feeling. If we admit the dan ger, we do not escape from it by concentrating the power in executive hands. Every Executive is elected by a political party. He selects judges from his ewn party, who harmonize with him in principle, feeling, and practice. Opposing partisans often seel to defeat a confirmation, as once occurred in New York, when near a dozen of Gov. Clinton's nominations were rejected. We know that a whig Senate refused to confirm Chief Justice Taney, when nominated to fill the place of Justice Duval, and Chancellor Walworth to fill Justice Thompson's vacancy. We all know that judicial appointments, when made by Executives and confirmed by Senates, are as strongly political as those elected by the people. When a judge is once firmly seated upon the bench for life, except common decorum, there are no effective restraints upon him, and he acts out the impulse of his heart, in politics or otherwise, without fear of consequences. If appointed for a term of years, it

sions and resentments, whether growing out of politics or less commendable considerations, without fear of the consequences. They measure out favors and kindness to friends without stint, and withhold them from political adversaries, and there is no remedy. They may favor a friend and prejudice an opponent on questions within their discretion, or sway jury in their charge without effective accountabil-Their partiality may manifest itself in a thousand ways, and become notorious to all without their being subject to impeachment or removal. Such things would destroy every hope before the people where judges are elective. No public functionary is more closely watched than a judge. He is continuand does is the subject of criticism. His motives are as closely scrutinized as those of the litigating parties, and the opinions formed by those attending our courts of the ability, integrity, and fairness of our judges are usually correct. They are less likely to be deceived than an Executive, who does not witness what occurs in court. From necessity Executives often appoint men to be judges whom they have never seen. They act upon representations of their political friends, who often wish to remove a rival out of the way, or wish to reward partisan services, or promote the fortunes of a relative.

The Executive may select with reference to his own re-election or that of a favorite, or to secure desired political results. He may do so for the express purpose of securing a determination of an antient or squatter right, or other question known to be before the courts, to meet his personal wishes or interests. He may appoint a judge with reference to his known opinions upon constitutional or legal questions which are expected to arise deeply affecting himself, his friends, or party. Such motives, though often unseen at the time, it is known have exercised an influence in making selections. No Executive has appointed judges whose known opinions were adverse to his own on great constitutional and legal questions, and seldom have nominations been conirmed where they were not approved by the ratifying body. None of these considerations can act more powerfully, and few of them as strong, if at all, in electing judges. Managing men may act from improper motives in making nominations, but the fact that their selections must be submitted to the sober judgment of the people will induce caution and estrain exceptionable acts. If a dull, weak, or bad nan is nominated, they know his unfitness will be exposed to the electors, and his defeat rendered probable. Policy will dictate making the best possible nominations. When once in office, the elective judge will bave the strongest possible inducement to act well his part to secure a re-election. If he conducts himself improperly, the chances are clearly against his re-election. If he serves the people unfaithfully, their eyes being upon him, they will know it, and act toward him accordingly. In this there is a security which cannot be found in executive appointments, where there is an independence of the people and the public will, and an ability safely to set both at defiance.

The real difference between the two systems is that the one places its trust in the representatives of the people, and the other in the people themselves. We do not believe that the agents of the people are more wise and patriotic, and above political and improper influences, than the people themselves. We cannot understand why the people are not as competent to elect a wise and good judge as to elect a governor to select one for them. A theory which olds that an Executive is more competent to select a judge than those who confer his office upon him is n direct hostility to the great principles of self-government. It rests upon the supposition that the people are incompetent to select one class of their ecessary agents. If carried out, this theory would result in declaring them incompetent to appoint any agent whatever. If they are qualified to select a nead agent, they must be equally competent to constitute subordinates. The assumption that such agents will be impelled to unfairness and dishonesty through fear of their principles is only another form of alleging that the people cannot be safely trusted in judging of the acts of their agents. Such arguments strike at the root of self-government, and would destroy it. Fortunately, the tendency of the public mind is strongly against such absurdities.

A GRAPHIC DESCRIPTION OF BLACK-REPUBLI-CANISM IN NEW YORK

Mr. Clap, of the Buffalo Express, has been nominated by the black-republican State convention for the office of secretary of State. He had been damaging the party by graphic descriptions of it, and in threatening to give the names of members of that party who had committed the offences he had described. A nomination was extorted from the fears of the convention to prevent further disclosures by one who had ample knowledge of the leaders of hi party. While fighting his friends into subserviency o his wishes, Mr. Clap thus describes the leaders of his party in his paper, the accuracy of which cannot be honestly disputed :

be honestly disputed:

"It would astonish the world to have a faithful picture of the last legislature held up to view. The constituencies of that body would stand appalled could they but see a correct stalement of the amounts of money that were received by members to secure their favor in the passage of measures good and bad, with a list of names to which that great corruption fund was paid. It is almost incredible to what extent men having important interests at stake in that body were bled before they could secure their rights. The justice of a measure was not considered, but the question was, 'How much money can be made by securing or defeating its passage?"

was, 'How much money can be made by securing or de-feating its passage?'

"The character of the State demands that this condi-tion of things should find an end.

"If the men of the last House who were among the corruptionists seek to be returned, or to be sent to the enate, the republican party cannot afford to gratify the mbition, and must be cautious about taking the hazare ambition, and must be cautious about taking the nature. The day for building places to overshadow the Capitol from the fruits of corrupt extortions practised on the floor of the legislature or around the executive departments has gone by. We have monuments enough of such piracies in that vicinity already, and it is to be regretted that they are occupied by

en professing to be republicans.

"We shall have more to say on this point hereafter, "We shall have more to say on this point hereafter, and, if it becomes necessary to give direction to the public mind, we may refer to names and circumstances as may be authorized by facts. We are opposed to making the republican party a nest of thieses and plunderers. It is a young party, and deserves a good reputation—better far than the last legislature proved for it."

The Memphis Appeal says:

consequences. If appointed for a term of years, it is the same, because his reappointment would mainly depend upon his party being in power when his term expired. Judges holding by such tenures are not only independent of, but are above, public opinion, and have no special inducement to do right. They will seek to do right, if they are good men. But if bad, there are no restraining considerations present and operating upon them. They can gratify their passification at the honor conferred, and the most explicit confidence that he will discharge the duties imposed by his new position in a manner at once creditable to himself and the government."

PROGRESS OF COMMERCIAL FREEDOM THROUGH-

subject of commerce transmitted to Congress in 1791, of that State—if past and present illegal practices the Treasury, on appeal, has reversed the decision of the the basis of a commercial system was suggested, in are legalized and permission granted to set laws of collector of customs for the port of Boston, who imposed which the Secretary argued, with his characteristic ability and clearness, that duties imposed upon imports would be disadvantageous in building up a foreign trade. "Instead," he urges, "of embarrassing commerce under piles of regulating laws, duties, and Pennsylvanian of last Wednesday's issue : prohibitions, it should be relieved from all its shackles in all parts of the world. Would even a single nation begin with the United States this system of free commerce, it would be advisable to beally on trial before the people. Whatever he says gin it with that nation." The spirit of this suggestion has directed the commercial legislation of the United States from that period to the present, and entire reciprocity with all nations willing to accept it was proclaimed to the world as the permanent ommercial law of the United States by the act of May 24, 1828. Generally, the commercial policy of Great Britain tends to the same point. As regards the navigation laws of our great commercial neighbor the freedom from restrictive regulations and unnecessary burdens of any kind is absolute. Her tariff system undergoes yearly ameliorations, and when it gets rid of a few grievous exactions which bear heavily upon articles of necessary and extensive use among the great masses of the British peoplesuch as tobacco, sugar, and one or two others-will be a model of tariff simplicity for all pations to follow. The progress of other countries is not so marked or liberal, but there is much to hope for from the general spirit of investigation and interest awakened throughout the world in reference to a better commercial policy. An interesting and very valuable document, showing tariff changes throughout the world during the past year, has just been published officially in Great Britain. No official copy of this document has yet reached our government, but we are enabled to present to our readers the most interesting points which it embraces

also been subjected to an average reduction of about also been subjected to an average reduction of about 50 per cent.; but whether these will henceforth yield any profit on importation is a point that can be determined only by practical experience. The minor alterations include sugar coffee, cochineal, pepper, solutely necessary, all admit. The extent of the remember of the sugar coffee, cochineal pepper. alterations include sugar, coffee, cochineal, pepper, porter, herrings, lead, tin, copper, quicksilver, zinc, rum, vinegar, earthenware, and china.

The French reductions apply only to seven article Fish, soda, wool, ginger, garance, oil, and sulphur.

Spain has adopted several modifications, including reduction on some minor kinds of iron manufa ture, and some descriptions of silk and cotton cloth. But the tendency has been rather to impose new duties than to remove old ones.

Austria has made only a single alteration-namely. the removal of duty from looms for weaving or spinning.

The Roman States have lowered the duties on se eral kinds of woollen, cotton, and linen manufactures, muslins, embroideries, articles of hair, wear ing apparel, furs, soap, and books.

New Granada and Venezuela have made a great va riety of changes, and almost entirely in an adverse

Montevideo, on the other hand, has effected con siderable progress, a reduction of about 25 per cent having been made in the duties on about tighty articles, some of them of much importance. The duties on wheat and on linen and silk lace, however, have been increased.

Buenos Ayres has removed the duties from coal and lime, which are now free. On raw wool and furs she has increased it 50 per cent.; while on silk

and tallow free; also wheat if consigned to the ports of Arica, Iquique, or Payta; while on flour she has made a reduction of 50 per cent.

Salvador (Central America) has reduced her duties on all foreign goods from 24 to 20 per cent. ad valorem establishing a decrease of more than 16 per cent.

On the whole, the results of the year may be co sidered to show that the cause of commercial free dom throughout the world is advancing irresistibly although slowly.

The Boston Evening News bears the following testimony to the long-settled policy of the democratic party in regard to banks and banking :

"A word in all candor. If the policy of the demo-cratic party in regard to banks and banking, enunciated twenty years ago, had been resolutely adhered to, we should not at this day be in danger of bank suspensions or bank panics. With millions of the precious metals coming in from the mines of California for years past, to swell the aggregate wealth of the nation, the ratio of specie to the circulation of bank bills has not been in-creased an lota. We mean to say that there are more bills in circulation now in proportion to the specie in the sills in circulation now in proportion to the specie in the of the bank than there vanuts of the cank than there was before the treasures of the golden realm were opened unto us. How and why is this? Where has all this vast treasure gone? Surely the reign of the 'rag barons,' which democrats in old times used to talk about, is not returning.''

The Chicago Press of the 28th says the western harvest is completed, and more abundant than ever. Corn, barley, oats, buckwheat, hay, fall feed, and potatoes, are all secure and good. We quote :

"A large store of choice butter will be added to the "A large store of choice butter will be added to the dairy products of the summer, which were never equalled in quantity nor exceeded in quality. All kinds of roots and garden vegetables turn out well. We never saw so great an abundance of fine cabbages, and there are onions, beets, turnips, etc., to match. And to these bounties are to be added all sorts of fruits in profusion."

The New York Tribune and the Albany Evening Jou nal are trying to make political capital out of the dis tresses of the business community—distresses which they have largely contributed to bring about. Their remedy is a characteristic one—more government interference, more regulation, more taxes! The burdened and "bleeding" people will hardly listen to such advice. [Albany Argu

Judge Roosevelt has decided against the claim of R.W. Lowber against the city of New York, for the recovery of nearly \$200,000 for a site of a market bought, or alleged

REFORM IN THE BANKING SYSTEM.

If the indulgence sought for by the suspens In the report from the Treasury Department on the banks of Pennsylvania is granted by the legislature their own seeking at further successful defiance-it a duty of twenty-four per cent. on certain articles de will not be for the want of earnest remonstrance on the part of the democratic press. The following timely and dispassionate suggestions appear in the

"The issuing of the governor's proclamation convening the legislature at Harrisburg, on the 6th of October, for "The issuing of the governor's proclamation convening the legislature at Harrisburg, on the 6th of October, for the purpose of considering and adopting such measures of relief as the present financial condition of our city and State may require, has naturally and properly directed public attention to an examination of the whole subject of our banking system, with a view of ascertaining, if possible, what guards and checks can be engrafted upon it sufficient in strength and efficiency to prevent the pe-riodical recurrence of such scenes of trouble and distress as those through which the commercial community are as those through which the commercial community are now passing. The first suspension of specie payments by our banks, which occurred after the war of 1812, was at-tributed to the prostration of business and credit consetributed to the prostration of business and credit conse-quent upon that conflict. The suspension of 1837 was charged upon the policy pursued by President Jackson against the Bank of the United States. It is not our pur-pose at the present time to discuss the truthfulness and sufficiency of the causes set forth as a reason why the banks were compelled to suspend specie payments at the times mentioned. The point to which public attention should be calluly and dispassionately directed in the presshould be calmly and dispassionately directed in the present crisis is, that the existing suspension has taken place when all the elements of national wealth are abundant, when the country is at peace with all the world, when the banks are acting under a law of their own seeking, and when the people are and have been disposed to afford these institutions every indulgence at all calculated to facilitate the full development of those means of relief these institutions every indulgence at all calculated to fa-cilitate the full development of those means of relief which it is alleged the banking system affords to the bu-siness community. There has been no hostile disposition manifested towards these institutions. They have man-aged their own affairs in their own way. They have is-sued the amount of notes thought proper by their own officers; they have received deposites when and to what amount they pleased; they have extended or shortened their line of discounts without the interference of any perut the interference of any pertheir line of discounts without the interference of any per-son not directly identified with the system. The whole management of the banking system of our city and State has been and is in the hands of its especial friends and defenders; and yet it has broken down, and carried with it to a great extent the credit of our city, the character

or State.

The countries by which alterations have been made in their tariffs down to September, 1857, are Russia, France, Spain, the Roman States, New Granada, Venezuela, Salvador, Montevideo, Buenos Ayres, and Peru.

The Russian changes involve some very large reductions from previous rates, but the new ones are still apparently so heavy as to be inconsistent in most cases with the growth of any extensive trade. The most important alteration is the removal of the prohibition against iron, which is now admitted at a duty of 12 cts. per 36 lbs. for pig, and of from 32 cts. to 72 cents on various descriptions of manufactured. The duties on cottons, silks, linens, and woollens have also been subjected to an average reduction of about the removal of the plane of the control of the prohibition against iron, which is now admitted at a duty of 12 cts. per 36 lbs. for pig, and of from 32 cts. to 72 cents on various descriptions of manufactured. The duties on cottons, silks, linens, and woollens have also been subjected to an average reduction of about the removal of the prohibition against the provision of about the control of the prohibition against the provision of manufactured. The duties on cottons, silks, linens, and woollens have also been subjected to an average reduction of about the country? Can it be perfected a superstructure commensurate with the wants and wishes of the real business upon which can be safely erected a superstructure commensurate with the wants and wishes of the real business upon which can be safely erected a superstructure commensurate with the wants and wishes of the real business upon which can be safely erected a superstructure commensurate with the wants and wishes of the real business upon which can be safely erected a superstructure commensurate with the wants and wishes of the real business of the country? Can it be perfected by guards and checks? We indicated some of those guards in our article of yesterday, and urged the legislature to consider them in a broad, generous spirit, w "The question now is, what shall we do with the sbackled.

We know and feel the responsibility of such a step solutely necessary, all admit. The extent of the remedial measures is the only point in debate at present. It is not denied that whatever policy is best calculated to throw into active circulation, and keep in that condition, the largest amount of gold and silver coin, is the one that should be adopted. That nation or people who produce and sell in the nearest approximation to a specie basis can at all times command and hold the markets of the word; for the reason that they produce cheaper. The inevitable effects of a paper currency are to inflate the prices of all commodities, to bloat trade, manufactures, and commerce, and thus render the nation which uses this character of circulating medium subject to all kinds and commerce, and thus render the nation which uses this character of circulating medium subject to all kinds of financial revulsions and disasters. The experience of all nations furnishes the basis for this assertion. When, therefore, a change in our banking system is proposed, it would be well to look most attentively at those suggested reforms which tend to the gradual withdrawal of so much of the paper currency of our city and State as can be removed without creating a vacuum too large to be immediately filled by the precious metals. That such a reform can be perfected no one will deny. The entire success of the sub-treasury system, and the substitution of gold and silver as a national currency, is a significant fact that should not be overlooked by those who will be called upon to deliberate with reference to this important called upon to deliberate with reference to this importan

"In advance of the meeting of the registration of all classes of our citizens to this subject. No man is justified in remaining wedded to old systems when experience is daily pouring a flood of new and unanswerable facts upon his pathway. There is no In advance of the meeting of the legislature we in and unanswerace facts upon his pathway. There is no feeling in the community antagonistic to the banks at this crisis. On the contrary, all seem disposed to treat with leniency and consideration even those institutions whose legal existence depends upon patience and forbearance. We have no doubt the action of the legislature will partake largely of this same spirit. be a criminal act to take advantage of the patient disposition manifested by our suffering business community of the many reforms proposed by those of our citizens whose standing and position in the community entitle whose standard and suggestions to great respect and consideration. Let there be a full and frank interchange of opinions upon this matter, and then we shall all be pre-pared to look at whatever measures may be presented to the legislature in a more intelligent light.

The Philadelphia Argus is even more emphati than the Pennsylvanian in its opposition to the banks and the banking system of Pennsylvania. After all the enormous losses which the people of that State have suffered by bank frauds and bank mismanage. ment-to say nothing of their present embarrassnents from the same causes-we are not surprised to see the following in that journal:

"It will be seen by a notice in another column that the democratic executive committee has called a public meeting, to be held in Independence Square on Monday evening, to oppose the legalizing of the violations of law by the banks which have suspended and forfeited their charters. All honor to the noble men who have thus described to the charters of the state of the charters. ed to do their duty to the democracy at this crisis

n our monetary affairs!
"There will be such a gathering on that occasion a never was held before in our city. Let a voice go forth which shall proclaim the irreversible decree that all vio-ations of law shall meet their legitimate penalties. Let the people turn out in their overwhelming give expression to their opinion in thunder cannot be misunderstood."

Shocking Occurrence.—We copy the following from the Morrisville (New York) Observer of the 24th ult.:

'Mrs. Mary Mattson, wife of W. G. Mattson, of Smithfield, came to her death a few days since under the following painful circumstances: On Thursday evening last (her husband being from home) she retired to rest in company with Miss Eveline Marquissee. About four o'clock next morning, feeling unwell, she rose to procure some medicine, after which she again lay down, leaving a candle burning on a stand near the head of the bed. By some means the light would seem to have been overturned on the floor and to have set the valence on fire. the flames from which caught the upper portion of Mrs.

M.'s night clothing.

"Starting from her slumber, and finding her dress on

"Starting from her slumber, and finding her dress on fire, she sprang from the bed and rushed frantically through the house, pursued by her companion, who, with true heroism, and forgetful of her own peril, caught Mrs. Mattson and succeeded in tearing the burning garments from her person and extinguishing the flames; in doing which, however, her right hand was severely burned. Mrs. M. was so badly burned—her body being literally roasted—that no hope could be entertained of her recovery; and, after lingering until 9 o'clock Saturday rally roasted—that no hope could be entertained of ner recovery; and, after lingering until 9 o'clock Saturday evening, she expired. Her age was about twenty-two years. She leaves two little children—the youngest but eight or nine months old."

Comptroller Flagg has made his semi-annual report of the finances of New York city. The amount of the tax levy for 1857 is \$8,066,566, an increase over that of 1853 of \$2,996,916.

DEPARTMENT NEWS.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT. Decisions under the Turiff Act of 1857 .- The Secretary of ated "printed merinos" and "amelines," the former being composed of worsted and cotton, and the latter of worsted, and both twilled fabrics. The department was not satisfied that the articles referred to, though composed of the same materials as "de laines," were known in commerce, at the passage of the tariff act, under that designation. They are twilled fabrics, and the term "de laines," it is believed, has been generally, if not exclusively, confined, in the language of commerce to plain manufactures, as contradistinguished from teilled fabrics. The decision of the Secretary is that the articles in question are entitled to entry at a duty of nincteen per

The Secretary has also overruled the decision of the same collector, who assessed a duty of twenty-four instead of nineteen per cent. on printed and dyed merinof worsted and cotton. The ground for the decision is similar to that stated in the case first mentioned.

Also, the decision of the same collector was overrule duty of nineteen instead of twenty-four per cent. should have been assessed on twilled fabrics of cotton and worsted, printed coburgs, ombre-striped coburgs, rain-

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

Wisconsin Land Controversy.—There has been a long un-settled question between the State of Wisconsin and the Department of the Interior in regard to some lands selected under the grant made by Congress for the improvement of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers. The quantity in controversy is said to be about sixty thousand acres, the State having selected lands to that amount which the department decided could not be legally confirmed under that grant. This claim has recently been adjusted, the authorized agent having acquiesced in the decision of the department, and consented to the assignment of other lands to the State in lieu of those in controversy.

Land Reserved for Naval Purposes in Florida. -The Co missioner of the General Land Office, agreeably to the instructions of the President of the United States, has reserved from sale for naval purposes the tract of land near the Chocktawhatchy river, in the State of Florida.

Appointments. -The Commissioner of Patents has made the following appointments in his office, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior:

Dr. Henry King, of Missouri, and James S. French, Virginia, examiners of patents. Salaries \$2,500 each. Elias Yulee, of Washington Territory, second-class clerk. Salary \$1,400 a year.

From the Barnstable Patriot. REMARKS OF HON. B. F. HALLETT AT THE DEM OCRATIC STATE CONVENTION IN BOSTON SER TEMBER 16, 1857.

Hon. B. F. Hallett was invited to address the conve tion, and was received with enthusiasm. He said :

I have recently left a sick bed, and am not in a phy weated as to not see in a mora conductor to insert to one; but I cannot refrain from making some response to the generous and friendly call you have made upon me. I have not enjoyed the honor of attending as a delegate a State convention for six years until to-day; for though my democratic friends have done me the honor annually my democratic friends have done me the honor annually to compliment me with an election, I have not deemed it advisable, while holding a public office under the United States, to participate in State conventions. I am now a private in the ranks, and ready to fight with you under

private in the ranks, and ready to fight with you under our national banner of UNION NORTH AND SOUTH, to the last man at the guns, and the last shot in the locker. I stand here now, gentlemen of the convention, as one of you, with very great pleasure, because, although I have declined for several years to take part in the conventions, I think I may say, without much assumption, that I left behind me some little marks of prominence, in the form of resolutions affirming the autionality of the democracy of Massachusetts. The whig presses used to say that I wrote resolutions by the cord. I am happy to find that, whether or not they constituted cords by measurement, they did help to form that strong cord of Union which has bound together the northern and southern democracy in that bend of brotherhood that has achieved all our democratic triumphs. When, after much conflict and division among us, they became imbodied in our State platform, I had no further desire than to see them faithfully carried out in all our relations to the democracy of the whole Union, and since that time I have not been in a State convention. The spirit of the same national resolutions proclaimed by Massachusetts same national resolutions proclaimed by Massachusetts conventions has since been adopted in the platforms of democratic national conventions upon which two Presidents have been elected; and now to-day I take great pleasure in saying that the resolutions which my friend from Springfield has just reported from the committee, and which have been adopted with such unanimous applause, are precisely, in essence and substance, the principles for which the national democrats of Massachusetts have been contending for years; and we can now homestly say to our democratic heathers, in all the States. have been contending for years; and we can now hon-estly say to our democratic brethren in all the States that upon these principles of the Union of the States, the rights of all the States in all the Territories, and the rights of property in slaves in States and Territories un-der the constitution, there is no division in the ranks of the democratic party of Massachusetts.

Where are the men who, when we announced the principles of nationality in our democratic assemblar to rise in their sectionalism and denounce them? the men who, when we proclaimed the equal rights of all the States in all the Territories; when we affirmed for the South as well as the North all the rights of property which were reserved and maintained in the constitution which were reserved and maintained in the constitution as the uniform rights pertaining to every old State and to every new State coming into the Union; when we in-voked the oaths taken to support the constitution of the United States for the sanction of the duty of every free State to return to the slave States their fugitives from la-United States for the sanction of the duty of every free State to return to the slave States their fugitives from labor: where are the men who then stirred up strife among us and clamored for a northern party to make war upon the South? Where are they now? In the black-republican ranks, in the know-nothing ranks, anywhere—nowhere, and ready to prove as false to them as they were to us. Thank God! they are not there; they are not even by false pretences, any longer with the democracy. We are purged, as with hyssop, and made clean; we are washed and made white by the process which has made the democracy of Massachusetts to-day, as it was in the days of our republican fathers, a sound portion of the whole body of the democratic party of the whole Union! And now we stand on our national platform, relying not merely upon present numerical strength in this uneasy State of Massachusetts, but upon the moral element of our national integrity, our fidelity to the constitution, our love of the Union, and respect for the laws and a conservative judiciary to expound them. This it is that makes up the grand, the noble character of the democracy of Massachusetts.

I wish I could impress upon all democrats the import-

I wish I could impress upon all democrats the import-I wish I could impress upon all democrate the important position which the democratic party of Massachusetts, if true and constant, will always command in its relations to the party in the whole Union, especially in its moral influences and its power to defeat northern disunion.

I see before me my old associates, veterans of the fight of twenty years in the democratic cause, and I know, friends, that you are now where we ever have been—in

friends, that you are now where we ever have been—in union with the democracy of the whole Union. I see also—and it glads me to see them—young men who are coming up to the help of their country against sedition and sectionalism. I want them to study and understand and make the ingenuous young men of Massachusetts comprehend that simple but great principle in the constitution which constitutes the fundamental principle of the democratic party in regard to slavery, and in all the relations of State to State, and the United States to Territories. It is the union in government which makes us one people. Why cannot any conscientious citizen understand that? It is the definition of our federal government used by Washington in his Farewell Address; "The UNITY OF GOVERNMENT WHICH CONSTITUTES US ONE FEOFLE."

ment used by Washington in his Farewell Address; "The unity of government which constitutes us one proper."

a most remarkable expression, rarely quoted, but peculiarly applicable to the present position of the democratic party in its contest with fanaticism and sectionalism.

Whence comes that "unity of government" which is to cover all the States and all "the territory?" Solely from the express grants of powers in the constitution given by the States to Congress; and all powers of government, and all rights of property not there granted, are reserved to the States and the people; and upon that "unity" the general government can establish, and the Supreme Court can enforce, laws only that are universal touching the domestic concerns and inherent rights of the States, and of the people of all the States touching their rights of property in the new Territories; therefore, you cannot assume for the old States, who made the constitution, to

impose restrictions upon the new States, or new Territories about to form States, which do not exist in regard to the old States. Hence, the Missouri Compromise, being founded on no grant of power in the constitution, was a mere usurpation by Congress, and the recent decision of the Supreme Court pronouncing that act unconstitutional and void is only an affirmation of the original reserved rights of the States and of the limited delegated powers of Congress, and is sound and just, and eminently conservative of the Union.

Why, Mr. Prosident, it is amazing that, with the extent of education that there is in this Commonwealth and in New England, there should be as much ignorance, positive ignorance, upon the constitutional principles of our forms of State and United States governments among a large class of our own citizens as could be found in

a large class of our own citizens as could be found in Yorkshire in England. I undertake to say that those forty doctors of divinity and that geological professor who assumed to instruct that most eminent statesman of our country, President Buchanan, upon his constitutional du-ties, have exhibited downright ignorance of the constitu-tion of the United States and of the laws for the govern-ment of Territories that would disgrace public schoolboys of the fifth form! In the face of the obligation upon the President "to take care that the laws be faithfully executed," they tell him that it is his duty not to execute the laws of the United States in Kansas. And because they have read in the newspapers that a portion of the people don't like the territorial government there established and recognised by Congress, they ask the President to fold his arms and let the mob make an independent govern-

The reply, calm as it is, is indeed "a withering con demnation," and stamps Mr. Buchanan upon the judg-ment of his countrymen as a sound and conservative statesman, a frank and fearless constitutional President, eminently cabable of governing this whole

How plain are the doctrines he expounds from the con How plain are the doctrines he expenses as your United stitution, if men will but reason! Here are your United States. What makes them † The grants of powers given to them by the States in the constitution. What is there in that instrument about slavery, except that fugitive shall be restored and that all the then existing States shall be restored and that all the themselves with Africal themselves with Africal themselves. shall be restored and that all the then existing States should have twenty years to stock themselves with African slaves, if they saw fit. That was the original constitution, and yet the leaders of this sectional northern party presume to say to you that those thirteen States, all holding slaves and giving twenty years to each State to replenish its stock, really meant to give Congress the power to prevent slaves being carried from an old State into any other State or Territory!

The democracy do not so undertake to force the constitution. We stand upon the plain doctrine of the national Union—NON-INTRANENTON with this question of ideery in State and Territory; and from that non-intervention only can come, if it ever is to come, that emancipation which some men are blindly attempting to force by pulling down the pillars of the Union. And there we leave it.

It.

Now, an apparent majority of the people of Massachusetts who go for what they call "freedom," totally differing from this democratic doctrine, set up for themselves and their partisans in Kansas a right of revolution outside of the constitution. When they are met with the law and the Gospel, "thus it is written!" they deny the constitution, they deny the Bible, and they deny the God of the Bible because none of these are anti-slavery. Hence, it is obvious that they cannot be satisfied with the Union the constitution has made, and they must have another sort of a Union. And so we find that they have put up as a candidate for governor Mr. Banks, formerly Union the constitution has made, and they must have another sort of a Union. And so we find that they have put up as a candidate for governor Mr. Banks, formerly very active in the democratic ranks, though, I apprehend, he was never there with a pure conviction. He tells them what sort of a new-fashioned Union they are to have without troubling themselves about the constitution, and that is "a united North and a divided South!" That is to be his Union. And what is this mighty "unity" to be upon? Why, a united North upon megrees and a divided South upon negrees! Why, I could go into Africa and pick out wild Congo men who would make a better government than such statesmen as Mr. Banks would leave to us if they could have their way in dealing with the Union. Still I must say a word in favor of Mr. Banks. He has evidently made some little improvement. Last year he was willing to let the whole Union slide, and now he wants to slide off only one-half of it!

Gentlemen, I have little further to say, except again to beseech you to adhere to those great fundamental principles which make the democracy the party of the Union, the guardians of its laws and of an independent judiciary. Let us deal with government, and not with false sentiment. With the question of the existence of slavery in the States, or its extension to new States and Territories that may choose to have it when they become States, the people of the North have no more to do than they have with scridom in Russia. Leave it to those who have the control over and the responsibility of it. Why, sir, if these meddling men and women—these strongminded women and weak-minded men—would let alone the true and chivalrous people of the South, who understand their own duties and interests in this matter better

the true and chivalrous people of the South, who understand their own duties and interests in this matter better than we can advise or threaten them, they will work out their own destination in their own way and with their own free agencies; and instead of a sundered Union, the great future of this country may see results in which patriotism, humanity, and Union may together rejoice.

patriotism, humanity, and Union may together rejoice.

Here, then, the democracy of Massachusetts stand, and in the coming canvass mark what are the distinguishing principles of the two parties with which we contend. With a sectional flag only to fight under, the republicans would break up the Union and cause the extermination of the black race in their pursuit of "negro freedom;" while the "Americans" propose to rule America by making slaves of white men for the crime of religious opinion and the accident of birthplace! With these doctrines the democratic party can have no compromise. Their moral and the accident of birtaplace? With these doctrines the democratic party can have no compromise. Their moral power depends upon their fidelity to national principles. Whatever may be the result, we can then extend an honest hand to national democrats throughout the Union. We can say to them that there are men in the North who will never falter in fidelity to the compromises and the obligations of the constitution. There we will stand or fall with you; one party, one faith, and one national platform

AWFUL SHIPWERCK .- MEN EATEN BY THE SHARKS. AWFUL SHIPWINGE,—MEN EATEN BY THE SHARKS,—An extraordinary case of double shipwreck is reported in the St. Christopher (West Indis) papers. The Rosabella left Dominica early in May for the Spanish Main. On the night of the 14th of May a storm suddenly brewed up, a heavy sea struck the vessel, and she became a total wreck. Nothing was saved but a trunk of money, and with this the captain and supercargo got ashore. They then purchased a cargo of sugar and chartered the Esther of Curacoa. After embarking a second time, a fearful tornado struck the schooner, and she instantaneously went down.

went down.

Twenty-one persons were washed off, and with great
difficulty avoided the vortex of the sinking yessel. The
boat fortunately got adrift, but the plug was out. For
three hours they madly struggled to stop the hole, and at
last it was done. last it was done

ast it was done.

But meanwhile the sharks had taken off several of the niserable men, and only thirteen succeeded in getting into the boat.

into the boat.

They picked up the oars. It was quite dark, and when morning came they saw no land in any direction. For four days and three nights the wretched men, without a morsel of food and scarcely a vestige of clothing, labored at the oars, and on the morning of the 9th of July the boat reached St. Christopher, ten men being alive, but all in the last stage of exhaustion. One died almost immediately after being carried ashore. The rest were hospitably cared for,

There are now on view in Sydney (Australia) a set of shoes made of solid native gold, weighing twenty-four ounces, and worth about £100. They were made for the favorite pony of a gentleman (now deceased) who resided in New South Wales, and bear evidence of considerable west. The precious metal of which they are composed was found on the land where the pony used to graze.

[Sydney Morning Herold.

The warehouses in the city of Buffalo, it is stated, ar The warehouses in the city of Buffalo, it is stated, are crammed to their utmost capacity with grain, flour, and general produce from the West. Fresh cargoes are continually arriving, but there is no one to receive them. The banks, in many instances, have advanced the freight, taking the whole cargo as security. One firm has now thirteen boats lying at West Troy heavily laden with valuable produce, and they are unable to raise the money (\$3,000) to pay the tolls.

In view of the high prices of meat, the New York Post In view of the high prices of meat, the New York Post says the wicked, wanton waste of breeding power, which is the besetting sin of American farmers, ought to be checked. Every farmer ought to be required to give an account of himself who kills a female calf. We ought to preserve every "cow calf" for five years to come. By this method we might soon have a supply of beef, not only for ourselves, but for any emergency abroad.

The great railroad-bridge suit (the steamer Effic Altor and the Rock Island Bridge Company, lately on trial in the United States court in Chicago) gives much satisfac-tion to the Chicago people, and the Press there states that the jury in the case, after fourteen days of patient exami-nation, stood eleven for the defence and one for the plain-